

*AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS*

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

***Listing of Claims***

Claims 1-7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method for treating a diabetic person, diagnosed for having an increased risk for the development of diabetic retinopathy on the basis of a polymorphism in the signal peptide part of the human preproNPY, said polymorphism comprising the substitution of proline for the position 7 leucine ~~for proline~~ in the signal peptide part of said preproNPY, for the prevention of developing diabetic retinopathy, comprising administering to said person an effective amount of an agent that modulates gene expression of the NPY gene comprising said polymorphism, wherein said agent is an antisense oligonucleotide that is complementary to the sequence 5'-acaagcgaccgg-3' (SEQ ID NO:9) and includes a nucleotide complementary to the nucleotide c at position 10 of SEQ ID NO:9.

Claims 9-13 (canceled).

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 8, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is an antisense oligonucleotide comprises 7 or 8 nucleotides.

Claim 15 (canceled).

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Claim 16 (new): The method of claim 8, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is fully complementary to the sequence 5'-acaagcgaccgg-3' (SEQ ID NO:9).

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### *SEQUENCE LISTING*

Please substitute the attached 4 pages of Sequence Listing submitted herewith for the 3 pages of the Sequence Listing of the published PCT application. The sequence listing has been modified to set forth the present application information and to add the sequences noted in the Office Action. This substitute Sequence Listing is filed in response to the Notice to Comply (copy attached) mailed with the Office Communication. It is certified that the sequence listing includes no new matter. Entry of this sequence listing is requested. A computer readable form and an 821(f) Statement accompany this Amendment.